

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2709

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652

TAGS: PARM

SUBJ: COMMENTS ON MEETING AUGUST 15 (SALT TWO - 728)

1. AT TODAY'S MEETING SEMENOV MADE STATEMENT INTRODUCING NEW LANGUAGE FOR ARTICLE IX (ASMS ON AIRCRAFT "OTHER THAN BOMBERS") SO AS TO READ "OTHER THAN HEAVY BOMBERS," TOGETHER WITH CONSEQUENT CHANGES IN ARTICLE II (DEFINITION OF ASMS), PARA 1 OF ARTICLE III, PARA 3 OF ARTICLE III, AND PARA 2 (C) OF ARTICLE VI. NEITHER IN HIS STATEMENT NOR OUR PRIVATE CONVERSATION DID HE GIVE ANY SUBSTANTIVE RATIONALE FOR THIS CHANGE.

2. I MADE STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF OUR DRAFT FOR SUB PARA 2 (B) OF ARTICLE XVIII (PROCEDURES AND DATES FOR REPLACEMENT, DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION, AND CONVERSION) TOGETHER WITH PRIOR NOTIFICATION.

3. IN OUR PRIVATE CONVERSATION, FOR WELL OVER TWO HOURS WE HAD A SPIRITED EXCHANGE ON OUR PROPOSAL FOR PARA 3 OF ARTICLE XVII (VERIFICATION BY NTM, TOGETHER WITH AGREED STATEMENT). DISCUSSION WAS OPENED BY MY GIVING HIM REPLY

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(SEE SEPTTEL FOR FULL TEXT WHICH I ALSO HANDED OVER) TO HIS

QUESTION AT LAST MEETING ON PORTION OF AGREED STATEMENT WITH RESPECT TO OTHERWISE HINDERING THE COLLECTION OF ANY DATA. HE THEN DOGGEDLY WENT THROUGH LONG SERIES OF TYPEWRITTEN NOTES, LITTLE DISSUADED BY MY MANY INTERRUPTIONS, WHICH IN EFFECT COMPLETELY REJECTED OUR WHOLE APPROACH TO PARA 3 ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT WAS ENTIRELY CONTRARY TO WHOLE PRINCIPLE OF NTM. DURING THE COURSE OF THIS PRESENTATION, HE IN EFFECT ALLEGED THAT OUR LANGUAGE WOULD REQUIRE THE SOVIET UNION TO OPEN UP ALL ITS LABORATORIES AND DEVELOPMENT FACILITIES TO AMERICAN ESPIONAGE AGENTS AND ASKED WHETHER WE WERE PREPARED TO DO THE SAME. HE ALSO STRONGLY ATTACKED THE LAST SENTENCE OF OUR PROPOSED PARA 3 ON MEASURES AND PRACTICES UNINTENTIONALLY IMPEDING VERIFICATION, ALLEGING THAT THIS TOGETHER WITH THE REST OF OUR PROPOSAL, APPEARED TO INDICATE CLEAR INTENT TO DICTATE TO THE SOVIET UNION HOW THEY SHOULD CONDUCT ALL THEIR RESEARCH, TESTING, DEVELOPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT ACTIVITIES. ALSO, "WOULD EACH SIDE HAVE TO CONDUCT ALL OF ITS ACTIVITIES IN THE LIGHT OF THE CAPABILITIES OF THE OTHER SIDE'S NTM?"

4. I, OF COURSE, MADE REJOINDERS THROUGHOUT THE PRESENTATION AND REPEATEDLY TRIED TO GET HIM TO COME BACK TO QUESTION OF WHETHER OUR DRAFT AGREED STATEMENT WAS CONSISTENT WITH THEIR INTERPRETATION OF THEIR PROPOSED LANGUAGE FOR PARA 3 AND, IF NOT, IN WHAT RESPECT DID WE DIFFER.

5. WITH REFERENCE TO MY STATEMENT TODAY IN SUPPORT OF OUR SUBPARA 2 (B) OF ARTICLE XVIII, SMOLIN IN HIS BILATERAL WITH EARLE SAID THAT SOVIETS FOUND DIFFICULTY IN APPARENT LINKAGE BETWEEN THE REPLACEMENT AND CONVERSION ON ONE HAND AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND PRIOR NOTIFICATION ON OTHER HAND. HE SUGGESTED MOSCOW MIGHT FIND REPLACEMTN AND CONVERSION MORE ACCEPTABLE IF "PROCEDURES AND DATES" WERE NOT APPLIED TO REPLACEMENT AND CONVERSION AND US SUBSTITUTED LANGUAGE ALONG LINES MY PREPARED STATEMENT TODAY, WHICH WOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT WE WERE NOT SEEKING DICTATE RATES OR SCHEDULES FOR REPLACEMENT AND CONVERSION.

6. IN THEIR BILATERAL WITH ROWNY, TRUSOV AND BELETSKY AGAIN TOOK OFF ON BACKFIRE ISSUE, STATING THAT FIGURES WE HAD GIVEN
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WERE "CONTRIVED AND FARFETCHED," BUT THEY WOULD NOT PERMIT THEMSELVES TO BE LED INTO THE TRAP OF GIVING THEIR OWN FIGURES.

7. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 19.

8. THERE WILL BE NO HIGHLIGHTS CABLE THIS MEETING. JOHNSON

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NNN

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